

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3636

ANSWERED ON:21.12.2015

Implementation of UWSSA

Singh Shri Bharat

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the implementation of Unorganised Workers Social Security Act (UWSSA) has failed to provide job security from arbitrarily employing and sacking of labourers including tribal labourers, protecting labourers from accidents at work place and health hazards, social security, education, pension and maternity related benefits;
- (b) if so, the reasons therefor along with the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether due to lack of coordination among various implementing agencies and split authority structure in handling independently, implementation of various schemes under the said Social Security Act proved insufficient; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the corrective measures proposed to be taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) to (d): The Government has enacted 'Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008' (UWSS Act) for the welfare of unorganised workers. Though there is no provision of job security, the Act provides for formulation of suitable welfare schemes for unorganised workers on matters relating to: (i) life and disability cover, (ii) health and maternity benefits, (iii) old age protection and (iv) any other benefit as may be determined by the Central Government through the National Social Security Board. Various Social Security Schemes, formulated by the Government to provide social security cover to the unorganized workers, listed in the Schedule I of the Unorganised Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 are as under:

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- i. Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme. (Ministry of Rural Development)
- ii. National Family Benefit Scheme. (Ministry of Rural Development)
- iii. Janani Suraksha Yojana. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)
- iv. Handloom Weavers' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. (Ministry of Textiles)
- v. Handicraft Artisans' Comprehensive Welfare Scheme. (Ministry of Textiles)
- vi. Pension to Master Craft Persons. (Ministry of Textiles)
- vii. National Scheme for Welfare of Fishermen and Training and Extension. (Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries)
- viii. Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana. (Ministry of Labour and Employment).
- ix. Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana. (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare)

All the above mentioned schemes are independently handled and implemented by the Central Ministries/Departments concerned.

The National Social Security Board constituted by virtue of the enabling provisions of the UWSS Act, coordinates with various ministries for smooth implementation of these schemes.

The health and safety aspects of workers are dealt by specific provisions enshrined in the Acts and Rules covering specific groups of workers. The Mines Act 1952, Factories Act 1948, Building & Other Construction Workers' (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act 1996, Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act 1970, Dock Workers (Safety, Health and Welfare) Act 1986, Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966, the Limestone and Dolomite Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1972, the Iron Ore Mines, Manganese Ore Mines and Chrome Ore Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1976, the Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981, Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1946, do have specific safety & health related provisions, which are enforced by prescribed inspection mechanism.

The cess Fund Acts are complemented with health and educational assistance schemes. Similarly, AABY also has a component of educational assistance for two children of the workers for studies from 9th to 12th standard, along with insurance against death and disability.
